

October, 2015

With the November elections right around the corner, we wanted to call your attention to two issues that may have a major impact on us. These are the race for district 3 supervisor and Proposition A.

### **DISTRICT 3 SUPERVISOR RACE**

We have an exciting race for District 3 supervisor among incumbent supervisor Julie Christensen (appointed by Mayor Ed Lee when David Chiu's seat became vacant upon his election to the state assembly), Aaron Peskin (our former 2-term supervisor who was termed out in 2008) and Wilma Pang (SF City College music professor). All three candidates appeared at a forum on September 10 at KGO-TV sponsored by the Barbary Coast Neighborhood Association (BCNA) and the Golden Gateway Tenants Association (GGTA). The forum was moderated by Gateway resident and Hoodline.com district editor Geri Koeppel.

Not surprisingly, all three candidates in this tenant-heavy part of town have pro-tenant views. Ms. Pang, a resident of Chinatown says she has been evicted or threatened with eviction three times. Ms. Christensen championed the reconstruction of the North Beach Library and the Joe DiMaggio playground and is helping the BCNA explore possible funding for moderate-income affordable housing. Mr. Peskin consistently and zealously supports the interests of tenants on issues of rent control, reducing evictions and maximizing new affordable housing.

This is a ranked-choice election, meaning you can vote for all three candidates in order of your personal preference. In a mayoral election in Oakland a few years ago, the second-choice votes determined the winner, so give careful thought to your second choice. Most importantly, **BE SURE TO VOTE.**

by Bill Hannan, Vista West

### **PROPOSITION A**

Market-rate rents in San Francisco have risen to astronomical levels while developers are planning and building high-priced condominiums, including a planned 33-unit Grosvenor condominium project to wrap around the Old Ship Saloon at Battery and Pacific. While there are tax subsidies and credits available for low income housing, there are none for middle income housing. What we need is affordable housing for middle income tenants such as nurses, teachers and first responders. Two low income projects are located diagonally across from each other at Battery and Broadway. Proposition A on the November 3 ballot is a \$ 310 million affordable housing bond that would, among other things, "fund a middle income rental program". A current proposal by the Port and the Mayors' Office of Housing calls for an affordable housing project of between 150 and 165 units at 88 Broadway (the parking lot at Broadway and Front). If Prop A passes, there could be funds to make 15% or 20% of the units available for middle income tenants, defined as \$ 85,600 for an individual and \$ 118,000 for a family of four. The BCNA is encouraging the Port and the Mayor's office to support middle income housing at this project. The City Controller and others have advised that Prop A will not raise property taxes because the new bonds will replace retiring bonds. This held true in 2012 when voters passed a \$ 195 million parks bond.

### **PROPOSITION A (CONTINUED)**

A two-thirds majority is needed to pass Prop A. Without its passage, the project will apparently be built only for low income tenants. San Francisco needs housing for middle income tenants as well as the rich and the poor. If you want to see middle income tenants among the residents at an affordable housing project at 88 Broadway, you might want to cast your vote in favor of Prop A.

by Bill Hannan, Vista West

### **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING RECAP**

The Neighborhood Watch Meeting for the Gateway was held on September 21, 2015, with residents attending along with the Gateway management team, Clarissa Tan, Director of Property Management, and Jose Angulo, Operations Manager. The purpose of the meeting was to find solutions to resolve the increase in the number of homeless encampments in the neighborhood parks, and resulting unsanitary and safety problems on the streets, in front of Safeway and in the Davis courtyard.

Rann Parker, community liaison for the San Francisco Homeless Outreach Team (SFHOT), spoke of SFHOT'S original purpose to move the homeless from the streets to shelters but that the lack of available housing has shifted such efforts to providing medical assistance "on the streets." However, where possible, SFHOT works to move the homeless to the city's Navigation Center with the goal to move these people into permanent housing or return to their families. Contact Ms. Parker at 415-734-4233 if you see a situation warranting her and SFHOT'S assistance.

Lt. Michael Serujo of the SFPD Central Station informed those attending of the SFPD Central District hiring of additional police officers to enhance current patrolling and response. He advised that residents can call the non-emergency phone number, 415-553-0123, to request police assistance in dealing with the homeless, and to report criminal activity involving the collection and selling of stolen bicycle parts as seen by certain Gateway residents. Of course, call 911 to report any emergency criminal activity.

Residents suggested solutions to ongoing problems: signs warning vehicle owners not to leave valuables in their cars to address the ongoing break-ins of vehicles on Washington Street, particularly between the Embarcadero and Davis Street; better lighting along Davis Street between Clay and Washington Streets; and police foot patrols or plain clothes officers to enhance community safety.

The Gateway management team, Clarisse Tan and Jose Angulo, addressed how communications between the residents has increased as residents have more consistently notified Gateway Security of issues; how trespassing into The Gateway buildings has decreased through increased use of patrol logs which describe those previously attempting to obtain access; that The Gateway continues to work with the fire department to get city approval to allow gates for entry into plaza areas; that cameras exist within the third floor and rooftop at Vista East and in all building lobbies and garage entrances which allow The Gateway central security station to monitor activity and that budgeting for more cameras is planned; and that residents can contact The Gateway central security when a non-resident tries to access a building through "tailgating" a resident with an access key. Rather than entering the building with a "tailgater" behind you, you can press #00 on the key access pad to alert security to come to the building entrance.

### **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING RECAP (CONTINUED)**

Lastly, Supervisor Julie Christensen's legislative aide, Mason Lee, encouraged residents to contact the supervisor through emails or letters as to concerns and solutions. You can email the supervisor at: [julie.christensen@sfgov.org](mailto:julie.christensen@sfgov.org)

The next Neighborhood Watch meeting will be in January, 2016. Details to follow. All residents are welcome.

by: Sue Rokaw, Vista East

**GOLDEN GATEWAY TENANTS ASSOCIATION (GGTA)**

Did you know that the Gateway has a tenants association (GGTA) and we would love to have you join us? By joining GGTA, you become a non-voting member of the Barbary Coast Neighborhood Association at no extra cost.

Our effectiveness when dealing with Gateway Management and SF city government is directly proportionate to the number of residents we represent. Our advocacy on your behalf can impact rent control, security, neighborhood developments, social events and other matters which mean so much to our lives.

We don't need you to commit your time (unless you wish) but we do need your support so we can work for you as GGTA continues to address so many issues impacting all Gateway residents.

Since we are stronger when our rolls grow, we are offering half-price dues (\$15) for 2016 for new members. In addition, current members who sign up a new member can enjoy the same discount. If you are a new member, or if you have recruited a new member, clip and mail the coupon below, together with your check payable to GGTA.

If you are already a member, renew your GGTA membership. Simply go to our webpage: [goldengatewaytenants.org](http://goldengatewaytenants.org) and click "join" or send your coupon and check to GGTA, PO Box 2134, San Francisco, Ca 94126. Be sure to give us both your building and apartment number and your email address.

by Bob Demchick, Vista West

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GOLDEN GATEWAY TENANTS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Building \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. no. \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Area of special interest or concern \_\_\_\_\_

- New member (\$ 15)
- Renewing member (\$15); referred \_\_\_\_\_ as a new member
- Renewing member (\$30)
- Additional contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (thank you)